(d) what are Government's action plans to upgrade the skill of the construction and forestry wood workers?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI SAHIB SINGH VERMA): (a) As per the survey carried out by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) during 1999-2000, the estimated number of workers engaged in agriculture including forestry and logging and construction were of the order of 23.8 crores and 1.76 crores respectively. The number of workers engaged in organized forestry and logging were of the order of 2 lacs.

(b) Details of the migrant labour for construction activities are not maintained.

(c) and (d) The 'construction sector', as per the recommendations of Dr. S.P. Gupta Committee, is among the important sectors through which additional employment generation is being attempted. Therefore, employment is likely to increase thereby benefiting workers engaged in construction, forestry and in other activities in the unorganised sector. During the Tenth Five Year Plan, training and skill development has been identified as one of the priority areas. Skill training is provided by various organisations like Construction Industry Development Council (CIDC) for construction workers, besides Central and State Government as per their capacity.

Accidents in construction projects

306. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA:
SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are frequent fatal accidents in big construction projects like, Delhi Metro Railway; four golden quadrilateral roads connecting Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata; East-West and North-South, Saurashtra-Silcher and Kanyakumari-Kashmir roads;

(b) the total number of accidents/fatal accidents alongwith the name of the companies and the workers involved, during the last three years; and

(c) whether it is because the construction companies are not implementing health and safety standards, if so, the reasons therefore and the steps taken by Government to prevent accidents in construction projects?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI SAHIB SINGH VERMA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Cases of child labour

307. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government for speedy disposal of pending cases relating to child labour;

(b) the number of cases disposed off by the courts and the number of cases lying pending as on October 31, 2003, State-wise;

(c) whether any additional child labour courts/tribunals have been set up to dispose off the cases expeditiously; and

(d) how Government propose to deal effectively with the grave problem?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI SAHIB SINGH VERMA): (a) The State Governments are requested from time to time to pursue the cases pending in various courts vigorously.

(b) The details are at given in the enclosed statement (see below).

(c) and (d) No Sir. Section 17 of the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986 empower the State Governments and other appropriate agencies for enforcement of the Act. The Act prohibits employment of children under the age of 14 in certain occupations and processes contained in Schedule-A and B of the Act.

Statement

*State-wise Statistics (Provisional)**

Act: Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act 1986

For the year: 2003 up to 31-5-2003

Sl. No.		Prosecution under the Act	Convinctions	Acquittals
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	563	0	0
2.	Andaman & Nico. U.T	0	0	0
3.	Arunachal Pradesh	0	0	0
4.	Assam	0	0	0